

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for modifying an input digital image having an (x,y) array of pixels, each pixel having an input code value for one or more color channels, wherein said input code value has a nonlinear relationship to colorant ~~amount~~ volume, to form an output digital image containing output code values for each pixel subject to a total colorant amount limit, comprising ~~the steps of:~~
 - a) determining an input colorant ~~amount~~ volume for each color channel of a pixel in response to the corresponding input code value and a colorant amount function that relates the input code value to the colorant ~~amount~~ volume for the corresponding color channel;
 - b) determining a modified colorant ~~amount~~ volume for each color channel of the image pixel when the sum of the input colorant volumes for the image pixel exceeds the total colorant amount limit, in response responsive to the input colorant ~~amount~~ volume for each color channel and a the total colorant amount limit, such that the sum of the modified colorant volumes for each color channel is less than the total colorant amount limit;
 - c) determining an output code value for each color channel of the pixel responsive to the modified colorant ~~amount~~ volume and an inverse colorant amount function that relates colorant ~~amount~~ volume to the output code value for the corresponding color channel, and
 - d) repeating steps (a) through (c) for each pixel in the input digital image.
2. Cancelled
3. Cancelled
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further including providing a lookup table for each color channel wherein the colorant amount function is provided by the lookup table.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the colorant amount function and the inverse colorant amount function are substantially mathematically inverse operations from each other.

6. Cancelled.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the colorants are inks for use in an inkjet printer.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the colorant ~~amounts~~ volumes correspond to ink volumes.
9. (Original) The method of forming a color image in response to the modified digital image produced by claim 1.
10. (Original) A computer storage medium having instructions stored therein for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1.